

• Abroad •

Paris. The government tried desperately to suppress the news of the latest audacity of the OAS (Secret Army Organization). While General Rouvillois was suspended from duty in one of the interminable investigations of army "loyalty," an OAS agent rifled his office and stole the sole copy of the secret plan for the defense of Paris against a coup. This plan contained the complete analysis of points deemed "strategic," details of all military and air installations, schedules for troop and police movements, underground communications, electricity controls, etc. The General Staff—some of whose members may themselves be infected with the OAS virus—must now undertake the long and costly job of preparing a new defensive strategy.

Lausanne. A. Bonnard writes in *La Nation de Lausanne*: "Everyone is very pleased that the Dutch government has pledged to the United Nations that the Papuans of New Guinea will vote on independence within four years. Doubtless there will be some difficulty explaining to them just what the issue is, since most of them have never been inside a school, and not a single one has ever graduated; and more than a fourth of the population has never seen a white man. Still, they manage to take good care both of themselves and of their enemies (whose heads they cut off and shrink, as everyone knows). . . . So in four years the Papuans of New Guinea will be independent, with a parliament, a Cabinet, ambassadors, a UN seat, and a national anthem (one of the national attributes that Switzerland is still missing). If the independence celebrations involve a few troubles, the successor, or successors, of Mr. 'H' will send some Blue Helmets, who will reduce the attempts at secession at the risk of reducing their own heads, and Holland will be pilloried for not having created a competent elite. . . . It will then be the turn of the Eskimos, who are reputed much more advanced than the Papuans, but who have forgotten up to now to demand self-determination from the Canadians."

Burgos, Spain. Of the several speeches made by General Franco at the three days' celebration of the 25th anniversary of his regime, the American press failed to take note of his address to Spain's military chiefs. His key point was that, conventional weapons having become "devalued" by modern armaments, Spain ought to be equipped with nuclear weapons. Franco made clear what he had in mind: "That is why our [1953, ten year] agreements with the United States will have to be studied again and renewed to meet the new situation."

Ankara. These columns have previously reported on the spread of the dread African horse sickness—which wipes out about 80% of the horses in an affected area—into the Near East, and its thrust toward Europe via Cyprus and Macedonia. Europe has apparently been saved by a counterattack in Turkey. The hero of the action was Dr. E. Moulton, sent by the UN's Food and Agriculture Organi-

zation. He produced the vaccine at a primitive laboratory 300 miles inland from Ankara. He had to teach a local carpenter to make the cages for the thousands of white mice required for vaccine production; to train villagers in the techniques of mouse breeding and hygiene; to arrange special heat for a bus to transport the brood mice (which could not live in unheated planes or trucks), and special electric power to substitute for the unsteady local supply. Dr. Moulton seems to have won; in 1960, 300,000 Turkish horses died from the disease; in the past six months, none.



"It says 'to be continued.'"

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Kiev. On October 5, two Dutch students traveling in the Soviet Union were convicted of spying. They did not deny the charge. When the judge demanded that they confess their regret, Low de Jager replied: "I was attracted, it is true, by the adventure, but that is an insufficient explanation. There is another factor—the Christian education that I received, and the Faith that I profess. I consider the Communist ideology to be atheist, and therefore hostile to Christianity. When a soldier fights for a just cause, and is taken prisoner, he must answer 'No!' to those who ask him if he regrets his acts."

Rangoon. On August 27, by adoption of a constitutional amendment, Burma became the first nation in the world to make Buddhism its state religion. Although this change goes counter to the injunction of modern Burma's Founding Father, General Aung San, it fulfills a long-held wish of Premier U Nu, whose piety is well known, and who wants to make Burma the religious center of world Buddhism. He argues that since government aims at the welfare of the people in this life, it should not neglect their welfare "in the inestimably long future existences." The non-Buddhist communities in Burma are naturally fearful of a possibly resulting discrimination in everything from government jobs and scholarships to taxes. The largely Christian Kachins and Chins, the Moslems in the south, and various pagan tribes may now be expected to join the demand for a decentralized federal system that has heretofore been pushed by the ethnically cohesive (though themselves Buddhist) Shan peoples.

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